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TELEGRAM Department of State

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Oct 25 2:00 AM '62

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USUN, New York

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FOR STEVENSON FROM SECRETARY

Following for delivery for urgent comment is President's reply to SYG appeal:

"I deeply appreciate the spirit which prompted your message of yesterday.

We will be glad to have our representatives meet with you to discuss measures to remove the existing threat to the security of the western hemisphere and the peace of the world.

I understand that in your statement to the Security Council last night, you suggested arrangements by which any agreement could become effective. I am asking Ambassador Stevenson to take up these matters with you immediately.

Meanwhile, it might be helpful if I were to restate the essence of the problem as we see it.

As we made clear in the Security Council ~~yesterday~~ the existing ~~xxxxxx~~ threat was created by the secret introduction of offensive

Monday,

Drafted by

TO: H/Cleveland: TL 10/25/62

Telegraphic transmission and classification approved by

U - George Ball *Signature*

S/S-Mr. Johnson

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Form DS-322
Rev. 6-61

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offensive weapons into Cuba. The first task should be to assure the nations of the western hemisphere against that threat. These nations, the Organization of American States, authorized the quarantine as an essential step in the achievement of that purpose.

Surely no one could fail to understand their insistence upon effective guarantees since the present crisis~~x~~ was produced by secret action taken contrary to the most explicit assurances. Such guarantees should cover the further introduction of offensive weapons into Cuba, the ~~mixx~~ discontinuance of development work on existing sites, and UN observers to ensure that offensive weapons are not operational.

We do not believe there should be insuperable difficulties in reaching a ~~x~~ peaceful resolution of the problem if those responsible for the threat are prepared to remove it.

END

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